

Little Orleans Schoolhouse  
AL-1-A-041  
Oldtown Road, Little Orleans  
1870's

Little Orleans Schoolhouse was built prior to 1881 during the Allegany County's first school building program. It is listed in Scharf's 1881 inventory of county schools but was not conveyed to the Board of School Commissioners until 1888. This was most likely a one room schoolhouse; later additions have obscured the original building. Like most of the county's one or two room schoolhouses built during the 1870's and 1880's it is a small and functionally designed frame building with german siding.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

AL-1-A-041  
MAGI: 0107625904

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Little Orleans Schoolhouse

ANO/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Oldtown Road

Sixth

CITY, TOWN

Little Orleans

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

☒ DISTRICT  
☐ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☐ AGRICULTURE  
☐ COMMERCIAL  
☐ EDUCATIONAL  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT  
☐ GOVERNMENT  
☐ INDUSTRIAL  
☐ MILITARY  
☐ MUSEUM  
☐ PARK  
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Frank W. Bell

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

ClearSpring

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21722

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 389

Folio #: 436

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

AL-1-A-011

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Little Orleans Schoolhouse is located on Oldtown Road in Little Orleans.

This building originally consisted of a one story frame structure with german siding with asbestos shingles. It rests on a high foundation of random rubble stone with a plain water table. The gable flank roof is covered with ribbed tin. Eaves consist of a cornice and fascia with decorative brackets on the southeastern gable end. Two cinderblock chimneys one located inside end and outside end.

An entrance on the northeast has a four light door. The original entrance in the center of the northwestern facade has been covered and the gabled porch roof removed. Six over six light original windows are pegged. Shutters are on the northwestern windows. A partially enclosed shed roofed porch is on the northeast.

Gabled frame addition on the northeast and southeast are covered with asbestos shingles. The northeastern addition rests on a cinderblock foundation while the southeastern addition is on wooden posts.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The date of the construction of the Little Orleans Schoolhouse is unknown. It is listed in Scharfs' 1881 inventory of county schools but was privately owned until 1888. (1) The trustees who accepted and distributed funds from the Board of School Commissioners for the school were, in 1881, Thomas Callan, Thomas H. Norris and William MacDonald. (2) The lone teacher at this school in 1881 was Ella Gallagher. (3)

The building is small and utilitarian in design. It is frame with german siding, shuttered windows, and rests on a high foundation of random rubble stone. Considering the size of the building and the fact that there was only one teacher it is most likely that it was a one room schoolhouse. Although much of the original building has been obscured by additions it stands as a reminder of a way of life experienced in rural areas of Allegany County during the nineteenth century.

- (1) John T. Scharf, History of Western Maryland (Philadelphia: L.H. Everts Co). p. 1335 and Allegany County Land Records Liber 64, Folio 647
- (2) John t. Scharf, p.1355
- (3) Ibid p.1356

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Allegany County Lands Records

Scharf, John T. History of Western Maryland Philadelphia: L.H. Everts Co. 1882

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 222.23 Acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Coordinator

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites

DATE

July 13, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

3 Pershing Street

TELEPHONE

777-5944

CITY OR TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

219

12/6

NAME OF PROPERTY: Little Orleans School

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Little O.

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: NEAST

AL-I A-41

NAME OF OWNER:

TAX MAP #44  
ADDRESS: FRANK W. BELL 389/436 222.23 Acres parcel 10  
Cleaspring Md. 21722 ph. #

STORIES: 1(✓) 2( ) 3( ) 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) BAYS: 1( ) 2( ) 3(✓) 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) 7( ) ( )

WINGS, ADDITIONS: NE gabled frame asbestos shingles Cement block foundation  
SE gabled frame asbestos shingles on stilts - adjoined bldg. too

DWELLING SHAPE: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

orig german siding

- (✓) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)  
( ) BRICK: Bond type - common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.  
( ) STONE: Bond type - rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated  
( ) LOG  
(✓) OTHER: Coverings asbestos

WALL FEATURES: Belt Course, Pilasters, Others etc

FOUNDATIONS: High, Low, Brick, Stone random rubble

WATER TABLE: None, Plain, Beveled, Moulded Brick

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1( ) 2/2( ) 6/6(✓) 9/6( ) 9/9( ) other( )  
NW pegged(✓) nailed( ) wide( ) narrow( ) mitred( ) pediment( )

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: offset NE light  
HARDWARE: original( ) replaced( )  
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN  
Paneled, Vertical, Horizontal Boards

overhang

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: Brackets (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)  
original(✓) replaced( ) rafter ends, modillions, dentils, frieze, architrave on gables

do cut like bracket  
and

ROOF: Gable front, Gable flank, Hip, Shed, Mansard, Gambrel, Flat, Dormers #  
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt; original( ) replaced( )

RIBBET

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed(✓) hip( ) gable( )

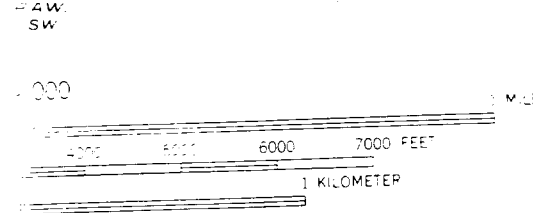
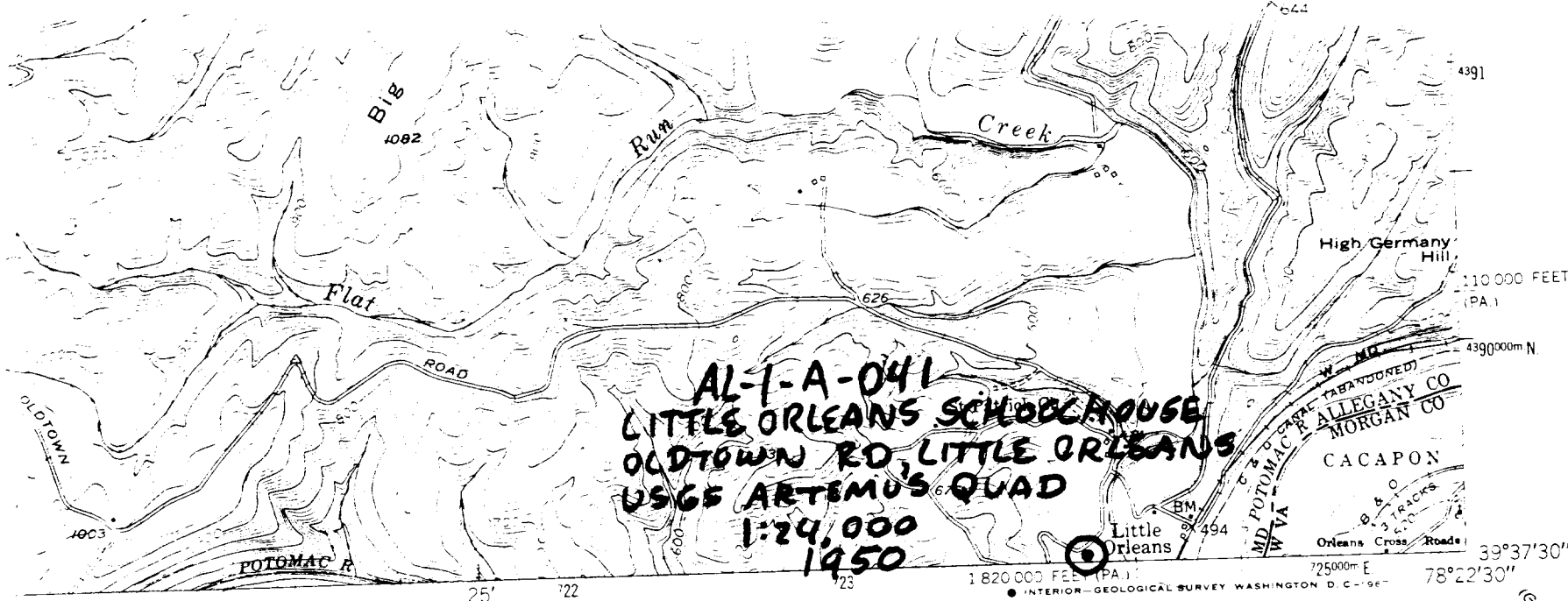
Cement block

CHIMNEYS: Number: 2 Brick( ) Stone( ) Corbeled( ) original( ) replaced(✓)  
Location: Flush end( ) Inside end(✓) Outside end(✓) Central( ) Interior( )

ARCHES: Door & Windows: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

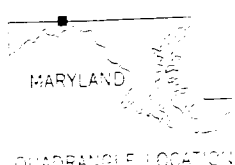
COMMENTS:

USE: \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNIFICANCE: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE CONSTRUCTED: \_\_\_\_\_  
CONDITION: \_\_\_\_\_



AL 20 FEET  
14 LEVEL

MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
URVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION			
Heavy duty	—————	Light duty	—————
Medium-duty	—————	Unimproved dirt	-----
U. S. Route	—————	State Route	—————

ARTEMAS. MD.-PA.-W. VA.  
NW/4 PAW PAW 15' QUADRANGLE  
N3937.5—W7822.5, 17.5  
1950  
AMS 5368 III NW—SERIES V833

(GREAT CACAPON)  
5368 III SE





AL-1-A-041

LITTLE ORLEANS SCHOOLHOUSE  
OLDTOWN RD, LITTLE ORLEANS  
DAVID A. DORSEY

12/6/78

SOUTH



AL-1-A -041

LITTLE ORLEANS SCHOOLHOUSE

OLDTOWN RD., LITTLE ORLEANS

DAVID A. DARSEY

12/6/78

NORTH



◆ The Loartown School, shown here, in the Vale Summit section was used until 1946 when the new Eckhart School was opened.

◆ In 1939, Little Orleans School was closed with high school pupils transported to Oldtown School and elementary children to Piney Plains. In places such as these, the teachers had to board in the vicinity and go to and from Cumberland on trains.

AL-1-A-041

LITTLE ORLEANS SCHOOLHOUSE  
OLDTOWN RD, LITTLE ORLEANS

DAVID A. DORSEY  
PHOTOGRAPH OF 1958 PHOTOGRAPH  
WEST